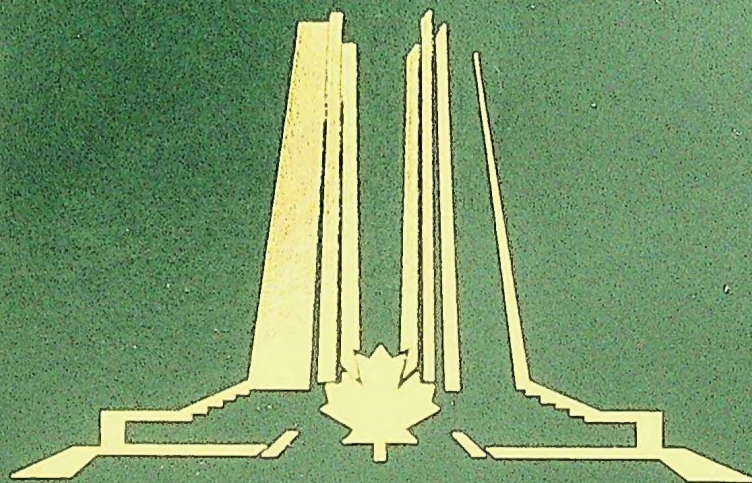
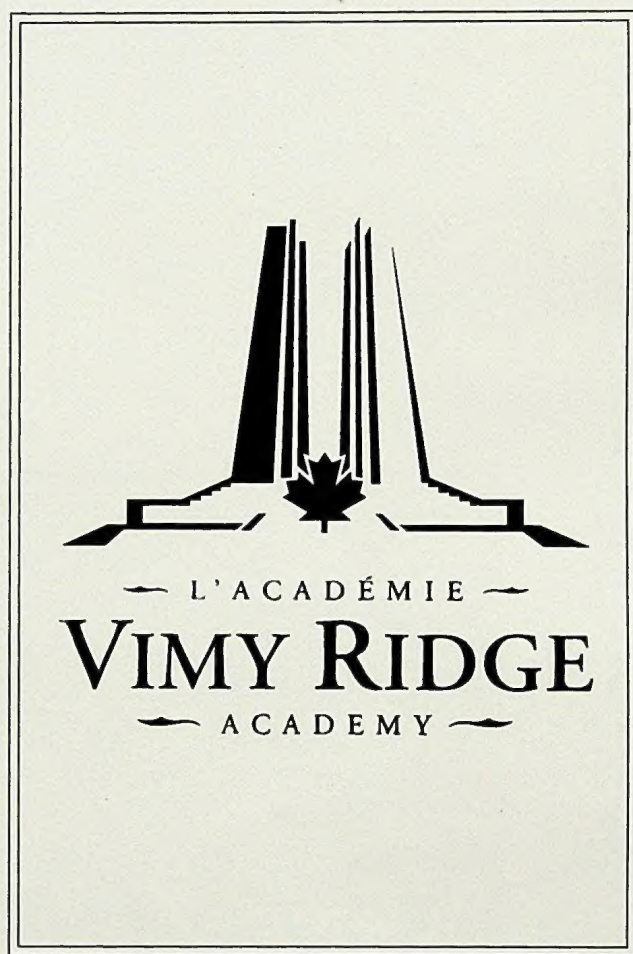
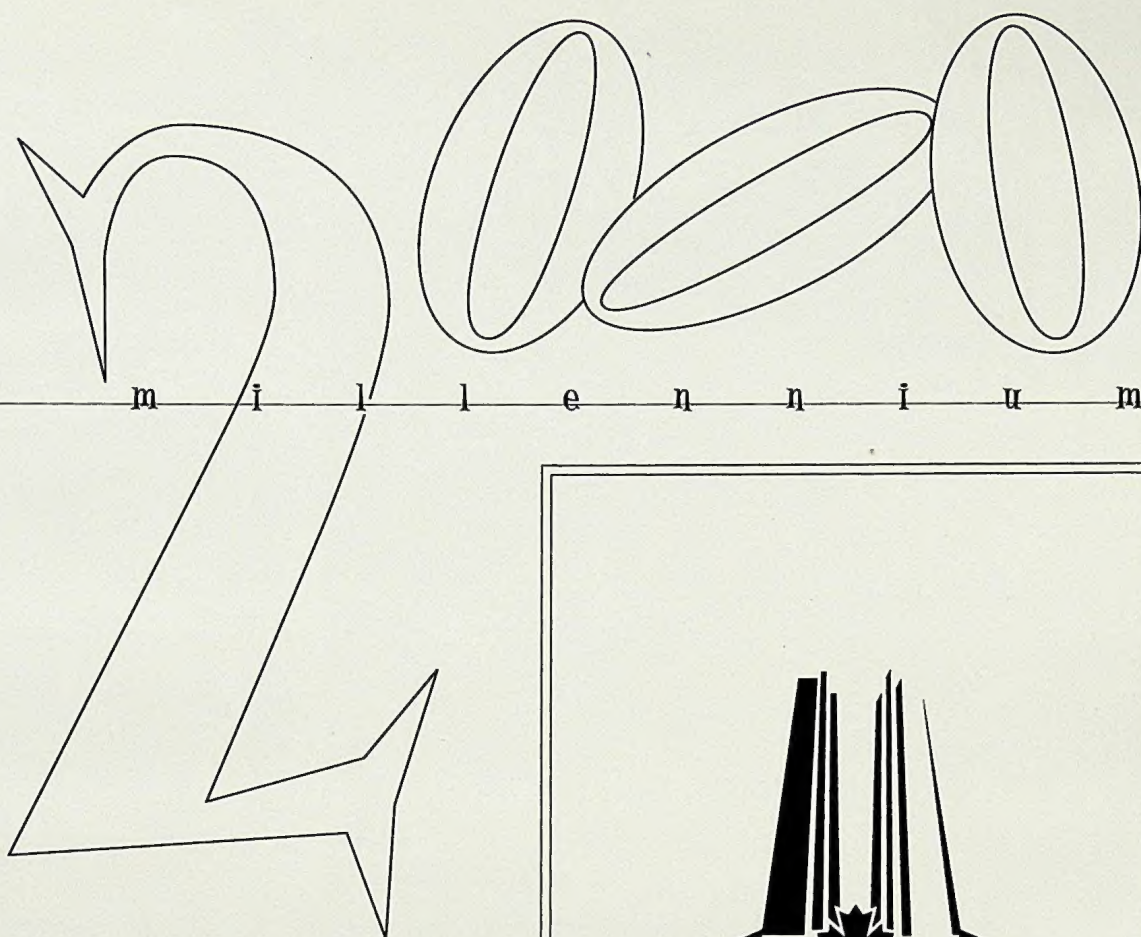


m i l l e n n i u m



— L'ACADÉMIE —
VIMY RIDGE
— ACADEMY —

EDMONTON, CANADA



A year of firsts

l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy

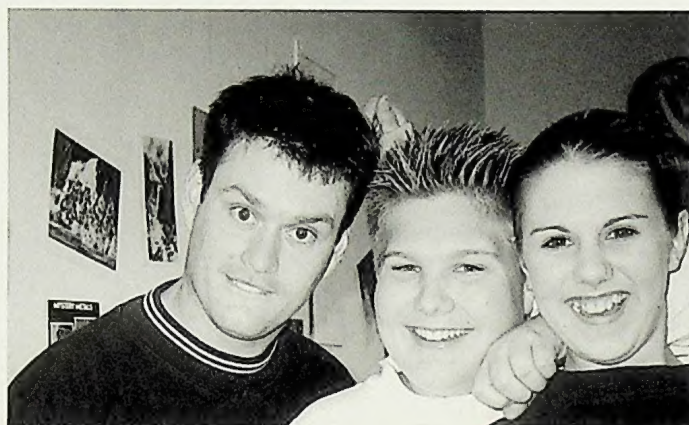
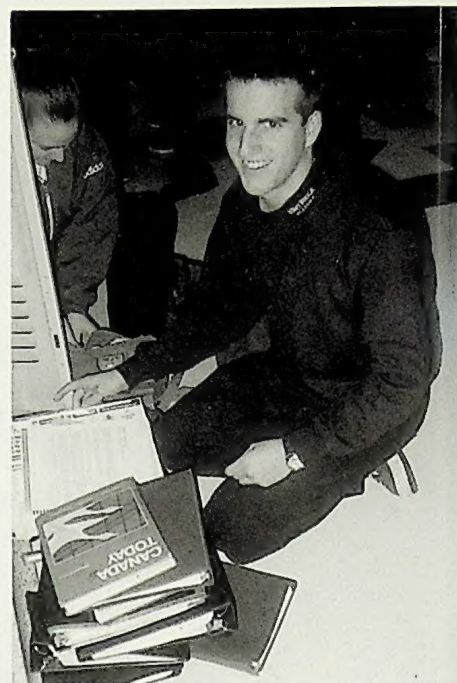
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Principal - Wilma Bayko

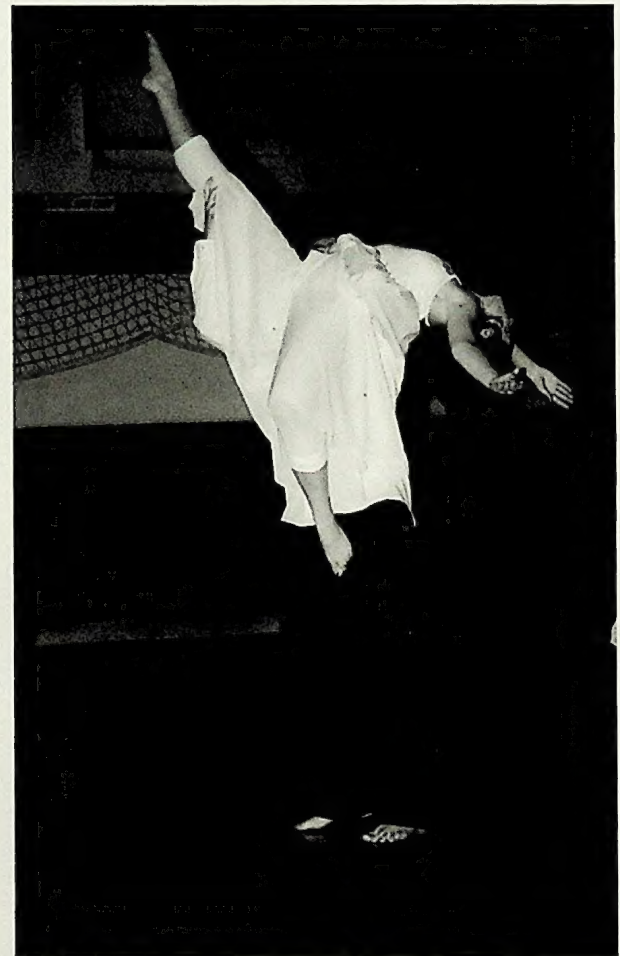
Vice Principal - Roy Leady

Published in Canada
Printed in USA

First Impressions









lasting impressions

Peace and Justice Pax et Iustitia

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1917, a group of Canadian soldiers embarked on what was to be one of the most heroic and historic moments in Canadian history - the Battle of Vimy Ridge. l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy was created to offer students the opportunity to pursue academic excellence while developing the same qualities of integrity, honor, leadership and discipline demonstrated by Canada's soldiers in that historic battle.

The first school of its kind in Canada, the Academy is dedicated to creating a unique experience that focuses on Canadian Studies while emphasizing discipline, leadership, physical fitness, and French language studies.

A charter school within Edmonton Public Schools, AVRA goes beyond traditional academic courses to include specialized cadet programming, and, through a partnership with the highly acclaimed Edmonton School of Ballet, a professional dance program. At AVRA students learn to make discipline and honour a part of everything they do - in the classroom and in every other aspect of their lives.

"Vimy was Canada's finest hour. Before the battle of Vimy Ridge, nobody had ever remembered Canada. After it, nobody ever forgot. That day in 1917, we were more than just a colony of Britian. We were CANADA."

From

*Vimy Ridge,
Canada's Victory*

By

Stephanie Jasinoski

and

Jason Fitzgibbon

Change Over Ceremony October 20, 1999

l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy



Pomp and Ceremony

Visitors, staff, and students all contributed to make for a gala event.

Top - Amanda Gane, flag bearer
Middle - Edmonton School of Ballet/Vimy dancers;
Lower L - Edmonton Mayor Bill Smith;
Lower R - Vimy Ridge Precision Drill Team



Sword Dance

Courtney Allen, grade eight, performed a Highland sword dance solo to the live strains of the bagpipe.



Pit Boss Lady

Grade ten student, Deanna Fidelak, toiled hand-in-hand behind the scenes with VP Leady, and Drill and Protocol Officer Georg Arndt.



Command Performance

Brigadier General Fitch, Commander Land Force Western Area, gave congratulations on behalf of the Canadian Armed Forces.

A Celtic Celebration

Beth Lang, grade eight, was captured beaming while performing one part of the group number, *A Celtic Celebration*. This photo was later featured in a special ATA magazine presentation of education in action.





Backstage

Production crew members, VP Leady and Drill and Protocol Officer Georg Arndt, keep a careful eye on the proceedings from the sidelines.

On Stage

A final view from above. (L-R) Mayor Smith, Minister Oberg, Principal Bayko, Legion Rep J. Poynter, ESB Director Flynn, Parent Rep Wendy Russell



A Strong Finale...

AVRA Pipe Instructor, A. Stone, leads grade eight student, James Lynass, off the floor, to signal an end to an outstanding ceremony and a truly memorable night.

Proud to be Canadian

Welcoming crew member, Cedar Robinson (L), greeted guests to the school with a smile and a Canadian flag. Kara D'Archangelo shares a smile.

Lest We Forget

Honoring Those Who Serve, and Those Who Fell Serving

Dance of Remembrance

ESB/AVRA senior dancers performed a very poignant modern dance choreographed specially for the ceremonies.

The Sounds of Sadness

James Lynass filled the gymnasium with the sad strains of *Lament*.

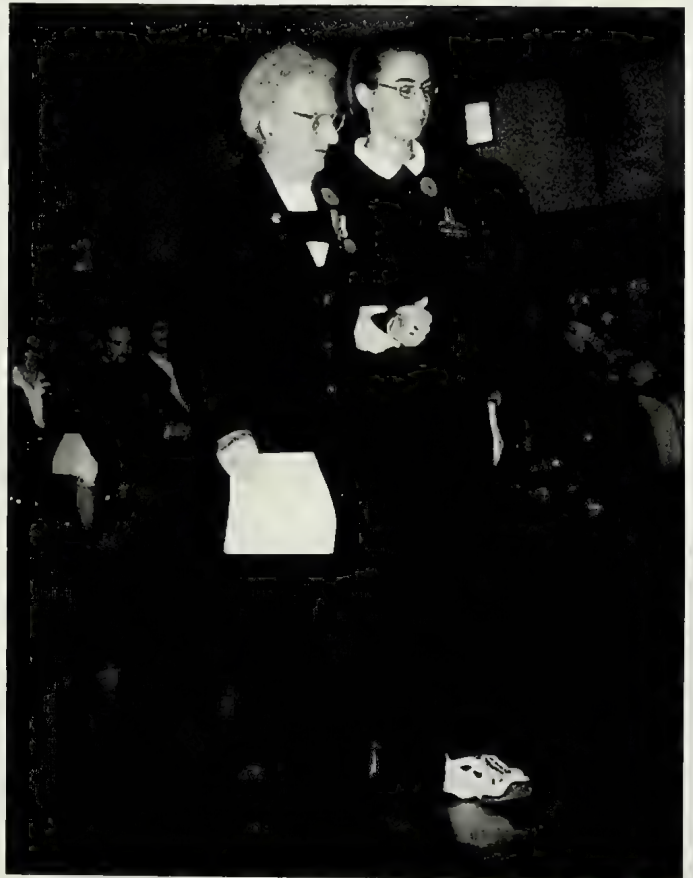


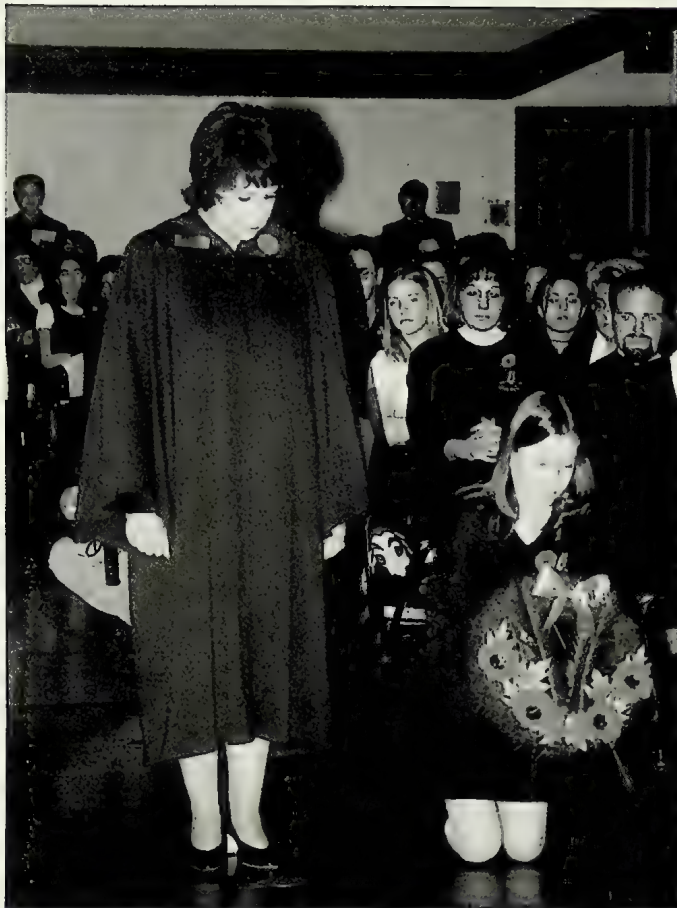
Comrades in Peace

A strong contingent of veterans and military personnel paid their respects while adding to the impact of the ceremonies.

Comrades in War

WW II veteran, Mrs. Mary Cavell's presence and presentation was a reminder of the many different individuals and groups who played a role in winning our freedom.





Laying of Wreaths

Principal Bayko and grade eight student, Kathryn Smith, lay a wreath at the specially created cenotaph in the gymnasium.

Past Mixes with Present

Sergeant Dan Kell gave an eye-opening slide show and account of his recent experiences in Bosnia.



Move and Be Moved

Dancer Lindsay Wolf's (above) and Chris Benoit's (right) personal intensity tell the tale of those who performed, and those who were so moved by the performances and presentations.



Vimy Ridge Academy Marks Remembrance Day

Throughout the world, Canadians are recognized for their commitment to peace and justice.

Remembrance Day was a particularly significant day for l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy. Steeped in the namesake of the school is a connection to those men and women who have served, or are currently serving, with the Canadian Armed Forces. L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy's Remembrance Day ceremony was a solemn, moving event unparalleled by any in the Edmonton Public School district. It was a memorable mix of the contemporary and the traditional.

Projects, special events mark Vimy's first Christmas

Twass the season to be jolly... Fa la la la la



Concert Capers

AVRA/ESB dancers (above); and guests, the Loyal Edmonton Regiment Band, (below) whose regular conductor is Vimy music teacher Mr. M. Chute, pictured conducting, performed at the evening Christmas concert.

Principal Bayko, (see page 13), cajoled into guest directing, also gave a performance to remember!



Let's Get Decorating!

Fancy Dress Day (above) combined with a Christmas dance, brought a very different look to the school. (Middle) Trimming the Peace Tree with messages for Armed Forces personnel who could not be home for Xmas. (Not to be confused with the infamous Lockwood, then Megley, disappearing/reappearing trees!)

Principal's Message

This has truly been a year of firsts!

Our list of accomplishments is noteworthy. To mention but a few, in 1999/00 we experienced our first/ became the first:

- * school to carry the legacy of Vimy Ridge into the Millenium

- * year for l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy with you as students, parents and staff

- * school of its kind in Canada with a focus on Canadian studies and option programs for students with an interest in dance and cadets

- * public school professional dance program to offer four strands of dance: character, jazz, contemporary and classical ballet (Even though this part of the program started a few years ago, it still remains the first, the best and the only.)

- * school to have partnerships with the military, the performing arts community, the Legion, the province of Alberta, the City of Edmonton, and Canadian Cadet organizations.

- * school council for l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy

- * Pipe and Drum band program in a public school in Edmonton

- * school to offer drill parade instruction and have a precision drill team

- * public school with uniforms for staff and students

- * school to hold daily assemblies begun with everyone present singing *O Canada* in French and English

- * high school with a climbing wall

- * school with a drill and protocol officer

- * school to house five cadet corps

- * school with museum collections for three themes: Canadian Military History Hall, Canada Hall, and the Canadian Cultural Heritage Hall

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank everyone, parents, students, School Council, volunteers, and community organizations for your incredible effort, enthusiasm, support and persistence, and in some cases, risk-taking, in bringing about the first of many years to come for l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy. Your efforts have brought us to where we are today. We have only just begun...but what a beginning!



l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy Yearbook 1999/00

Teacher Coordinator: Ms.O.Megley

Student Staff: Tara Robberstad, Kara d'Archangelo

Photographers-in-Chief : Ms.O. Megley, Mr. E. Thibeault

Many thanks to all photo contributors and numerous student assistants

l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy

Honor Roll 1999 - 2000 *

Grade Seven

Amanda Farquharson

Patrick Fisher

Karly Hanson

Brett Howard

Devin McFarlane

Erica Rietveld

Daniel Thorsen

Kirsten Watson

Grade Nine

Tiffany Bilodeau

Ashley Cowan

Grade Eight

Candice Kinal

Talia West

Grade Ten

Julia Compton

Marie-Josée Dupuis

Jason Fitzgibbon

Crystal Hostyn

Beatrice Ilg

Cindy Jackson

Kandis Mak

Cedar Robinson

Craig Trink

Mira Tusz

*Denotes Final Overall Average of 80 %+
as of June, 2000

Due to date of publishing, all award winners from all
categories will appear in the
2000/01 yearbook



l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy offered a full compliment of core and option courses for grades seven through ten in our first year of existence. Courses at other grade levels were available through special programming. Full grade eleven is in place for 2001/02; followed by grade twelve in 2002/03.



Picture Show

Cameras!Action!	15
Grade Seven	17
Grade Eight	19
Grade Nine	20
Grade Ten	22
Special Programs	25
Staff Acts	26
Troupe Efforts	30

TROUPE EFFORTS



Grade

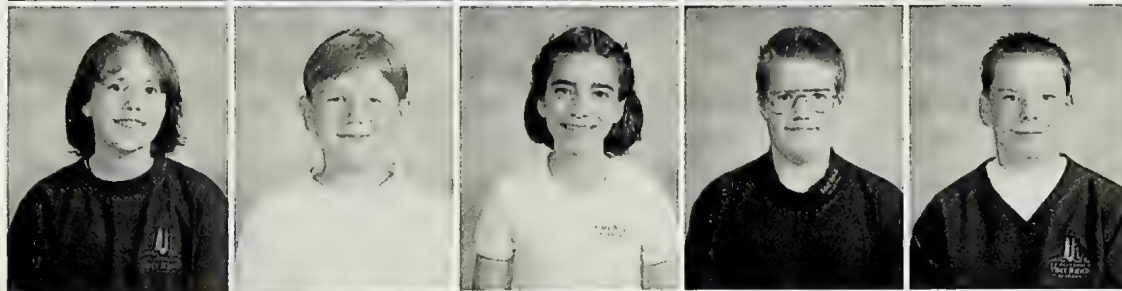
7



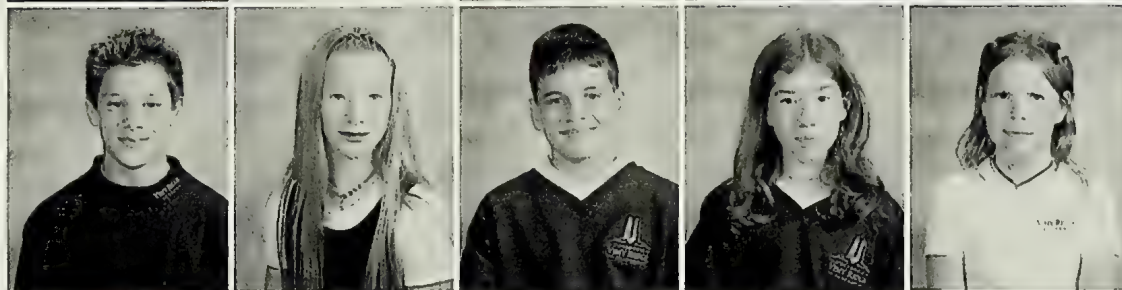
Courtney Allen
Matthew Andrushak
Gillian Bergdahl
Joseph Boudreau
Brock Bourrie



Dwayne Budac
Travis Davies
Robert Downey
Joseph Drinnan
Michael Farlinger



Amanda Farquharson
Patrick Fisher
Amanda Gane
Scott Gillis
Johnathan Gorrie



James Haakensen
Karly Hanson
Robert Hart
Kirsten Hartley
Diane Hillman



Brett Howard
Jolene Hutseal
Scott Johnston
Scott Kennedy
Derek Krasowski

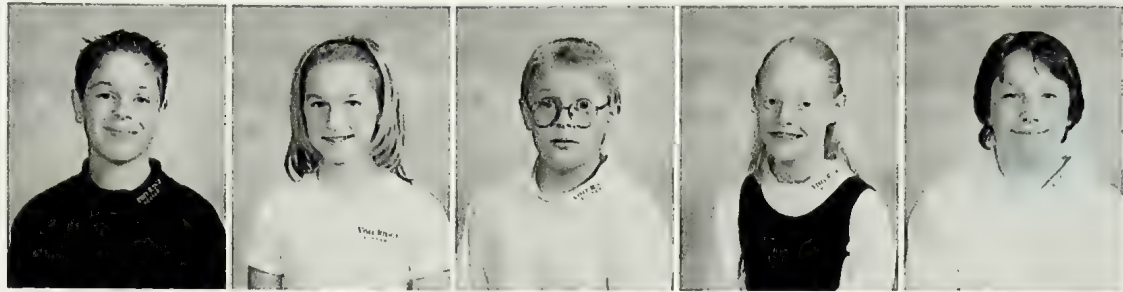


Kari-Lee Kroeker
Deanna Labrecque
Michael Lafrance
Ryan Langlois
Mitchell MacPherson

Grade

7

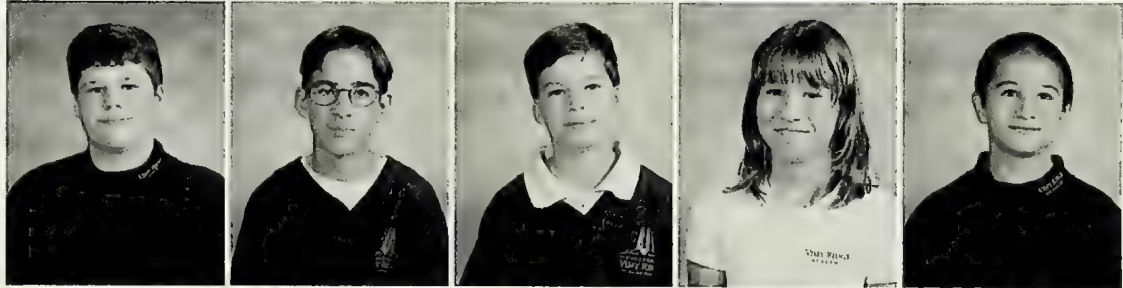
Michael McClellan
Devin McFarlane
Raven Milligan
Catherine Morgan
William Morland



Ian Moxley
Matthew Penfold
Daniel Plant
Erica Rietveld
Ryan Robitaille



Chad Russell
Ian Sorochan
Daniel Thorsen
Chelsey Tomlinson
Paul Truong



Adrian Vanderwell
Kirsten Watson
Glenn Wilson
Ian Winchester
Dustin Youb

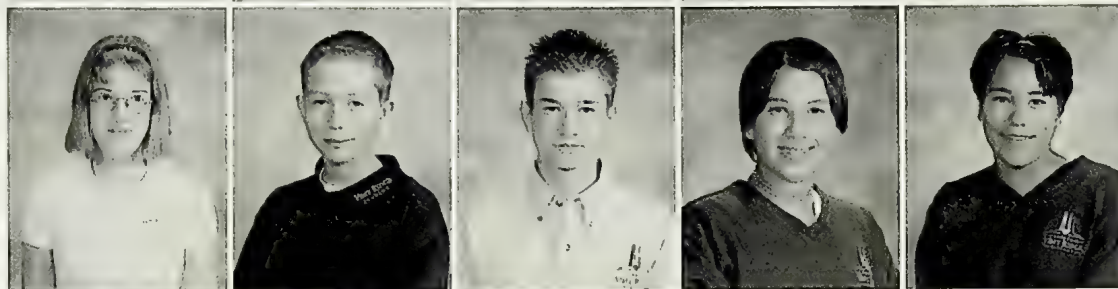


Grade

8



Moiz Adamji-Hassanali
Murray Bass
Joshua Brown
Ashley Butler
Brendan Clauson



Julie Forseth
Lee Grant
Wesley Hall
Leela Haynes
Ashley Howard



Justin Johnston
Candice Kinal
Bethany Lang
Neomie Langlois
James Lynass



Jason Maik
Daniel O'Leary
Adam Pressick
Clayton Preston
Warren Skaley



Kathryn Smith
Kevan Smith
Roxanne Spiess
Amy Wanechko
Talia West



Amanda Willson
Melissa Wowk
Elizabeth Wright

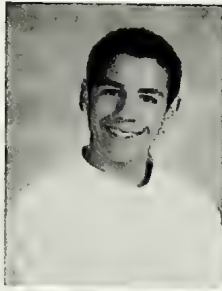
Grade

9

Marc Arnault
Bryan Benjamin
Tiffany Bilodeau
Ryan Bourdignon
Christopher Bouschard



Jeremy Boyd
Brendan Brown
Ashley Cowan
Wade Croteau
Cody Cullinan



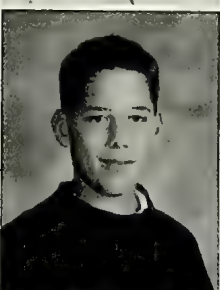
Jennifer Delong
Charles Descheneaux
Kathleen Duguay
Jennifer Dunford
Natasha Flett



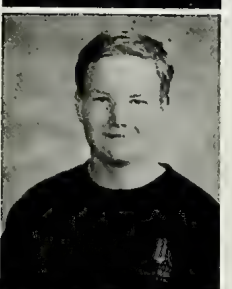
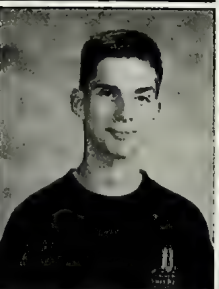
Michelle Fritz
Marla Galloway
Ryan Ginter
Meaghan Goebel
Vanessa Haakensen



Shane Hartwig
Curtis Hickson
Mandy Holmes
Michael Hostyn
Danielle Izzard



Dustin Kevend
Christopher Kiernan
Tyler Kiernan
Dana Lea
Joseph Lewanczuk

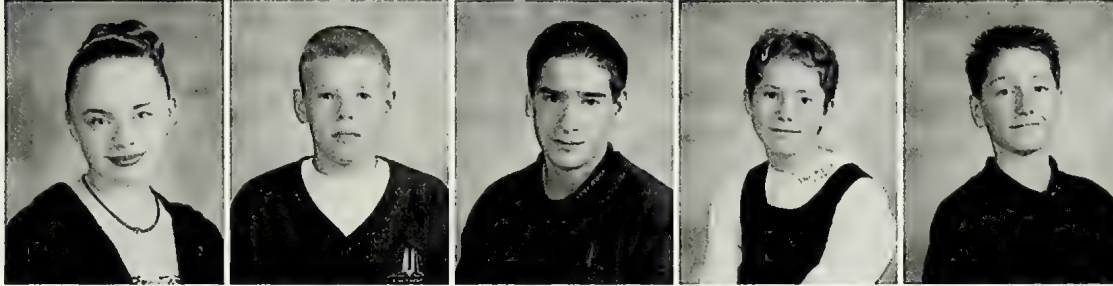


Grade

9



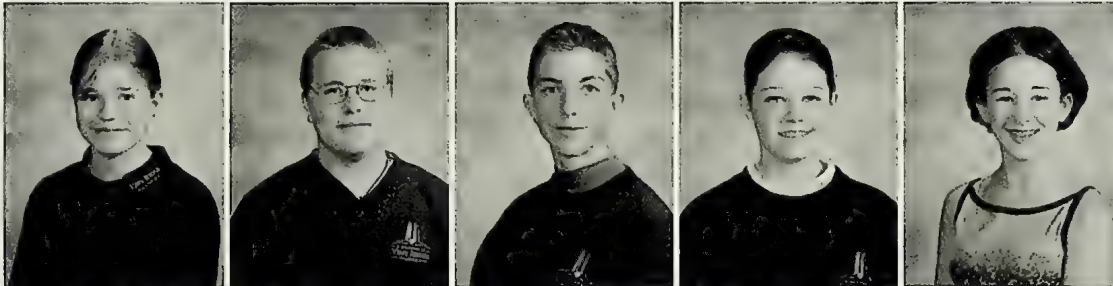
Jacelyn Lobay
Ellyse Loiselle
Trevor Lukaniuk
Ashleen MacPherson
Jenna Marleau



Ashley May
Kyle McCallum
William Miller
Nicole Morgan
Colin Muncy



Christian Neudecker-Merpaw
Caleb Neumeier
Kevin Poynter
John Prusakowski
Mike Rocheleau



Ashley Seward
Robert Shanks
Aaron Skaley
Amanda Smith
Jacqueline Smith



Christopher Straga
Kristen Sydora
Shalys Tipper
David White
Nadia White



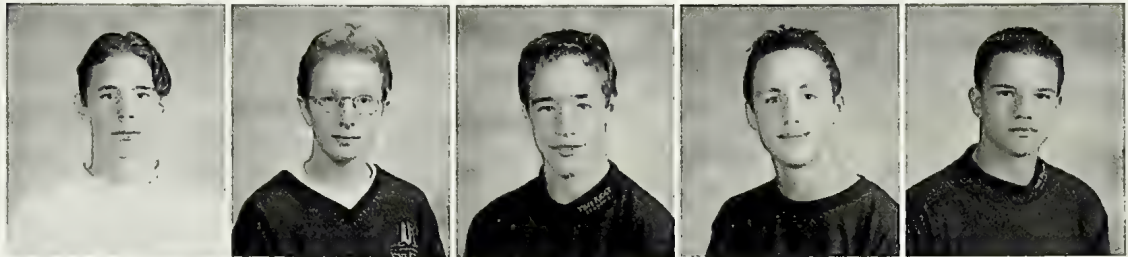
Trevor Wilde
Sharon Williams
Julie Wright

Grade

10

Class of 2002

Derrik Abbott
Jacinda Adams
Jason Allison
Scott Atkinson
Gordon Bell



Tyrone Benedik
Christopher Benoit
Michael Bittman
Jennifer Boyd
Robert Brant



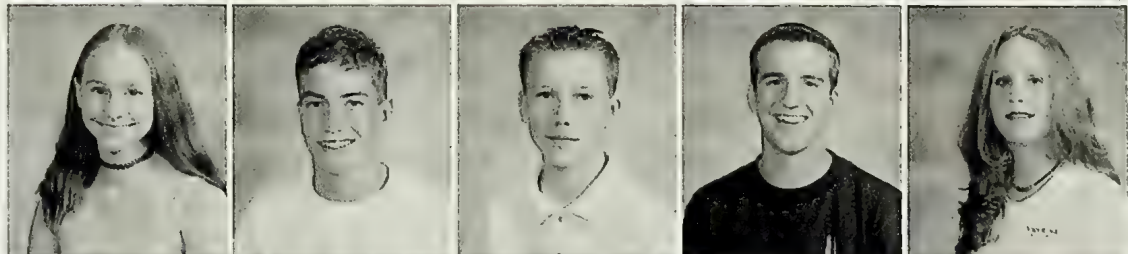
Alessandru Brown
Justin Callaghan-Tudor
Renee Cherniwchan
Ryan Chopin
Nathan Coates



Julia Compton
Kara d'Archangelo
Christopher Davies
Carlin Dennis
Gregory Doucet



Marie Dupuis
Robert Dupuis
Garnett Egan
Jason Fitzgibbon
Deanna Fontaine



Stephen Forbes
Pamela Freake
Mitchell Galet
Felicia Gilmour
Noel Ginter



Class of 2002

Grade

10



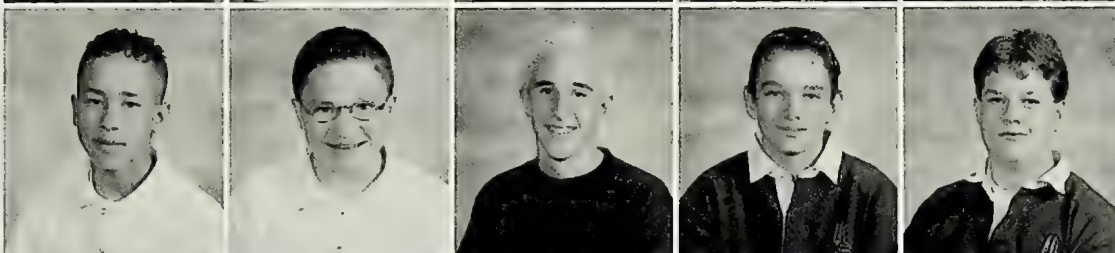
Kiel Hanks
Meighan Hartley
Glenn Heth
Kyle Hick
Crystal Hostyn



Melanie Hough
Shad House
Ashley Hynes
Beatrice Ilg
Cindy Jackson



Stephanie Jasinoski
Heather Jones
Dorothy-Marie Kirby
Kristin Koehler
Urszula Laskowski



Leejay Lawrence
Terrence Lidkea
Byron Linder
Dwayne Lolacher
Ben MacPherson



Kandis Mak
Eric Marietta
Susanne Maslowski
Jordan McAuley
John McCully



Eddy Meele
Earl Payea
Ryan Pelletier
Lauren Polvi
Kyle Pressick

Grade 10

Class of
2002

Michael Rejzek
Tara Robberstad
Cedar Robinson
Theresa Rudiak
Cody Russell



Dustin Sager
John-David Sheard
Danielle Siewerda
Nicole Smuda
Alanna Stokes



Cassie-Rae Stoley
Keith Stubbs
Annette Study
Arthur Sukalsky
Laura Sustrik



Craig Trink
Jennifer Trudel
Mira Tusz
Tyler Twa
Kathleen Vereecken



Michael Williams
Lindsay Wolf
Heather Worden



Grade

11



Jenelle Fisher
James Kendal
Francis-Anne Kirby
Liam Smith
Jennifer York

Class of 2001

Dependent Handicapped



Nora Auger
Carole Barber
Billy Beloin
Crystal Brown-Warr
Lindsay Clements



Jerome Durocher
Katrina George
Steven Grootes
Andreas Hartt
Barbara Kalbfleisch



Katherine Keeler
Christine Park
Patrick Robertson
Colin Taylor
Taufiq Tejpar



Pamela Tench
Ian Zips

Faculty/Staff



David Anderson
English/Phys Ed



Georg Arndt
Drill and Protocol



Shirley Bartels
Secretary



Dorothy Bateman
Cafeteria



Wilma Bayko
Principal



Rhonda Bentz
Teacher Asst



Gwen Berkholtz
Accounting



Michael Chute
Music/Band



Brenda Davis
Custodian



Sharon Dunham
Teacher Asst



Kerwin Durrell
Phys Ed



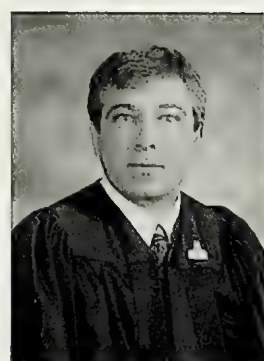
Janice Eglinski
Business Manager



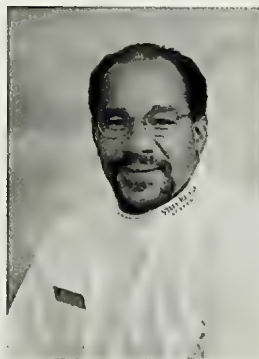
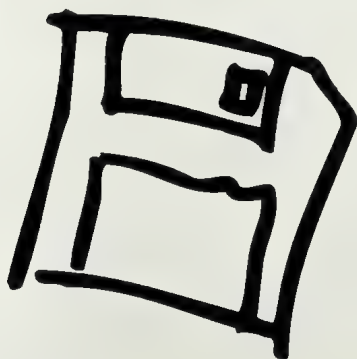
Geoffrey Evans
Social Studies/French



Dennis Fleck
Cadet Liason



Brian Gobbett
Military History



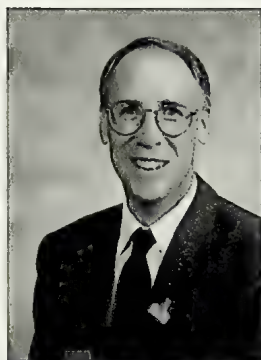
Michael Groves
Teacher Asst



Caroline Heppell
Science



Debbie Kingsley
Secretary



Roy Leadly
Vice Principal



Mark Lockwood
Social Studies



Cathie Mattingley
Library



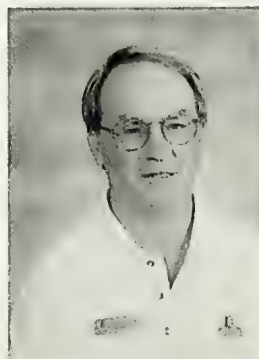
Olli Megley
Language Arts



Glenda Murphy



Pat Prendergast
Cafeteria



Warren Shaw
D.H. Teacher/Coordinator



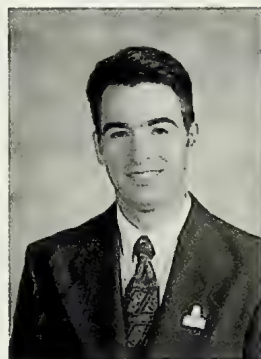
Dyanne Siderson
Work Exp



Don Symes
Math



Irene Tarala
Student Records



Eric Thibeault
Social Studies



Donna Valich



Anthony Walsh
Technology



Dennis Wong
Math/Science



Irene Zotzman
Custodian



Terry Doherty
Head Custodian

Missing

Irene Heffel
English/LA Dept. Head

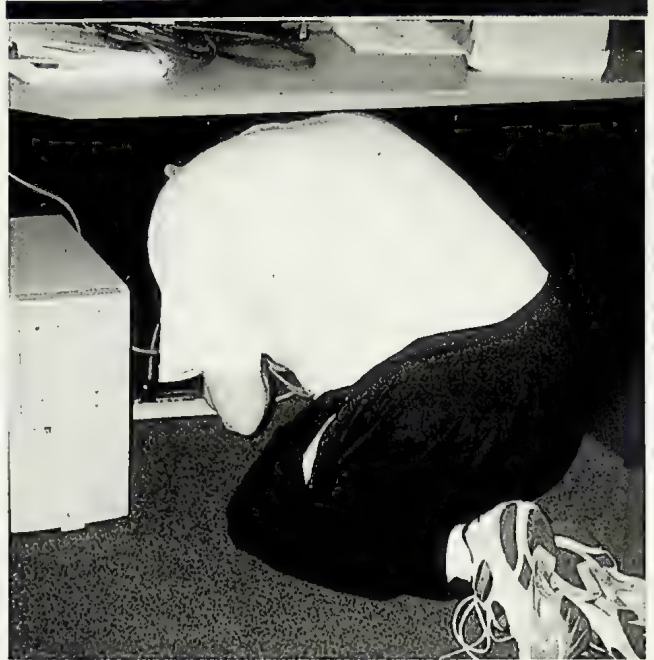
Bernadette Huber
Math



Staff Acts



"Those summer niii-ghiiiiits..."



Mr. Walsh hiding from the principal...



Heeeyy, I can see Mars through this thing...

They're UP to something: it's the grin...



Disguised as administrators



Oh, my god, I think I pulled something. I can't move my arm.

“look who’s TALKING”



Nova Scotia Trip

Front (L-R) Ian Winchester, Dan Plant, Amanda Farquharson, Crystal Hostyn, Jolene Hutseal, Justin Johnston, Nicole Morgan, Ellyse Loiselle, Jerrod Johnston
Middle (L-R) Paul Troung, Darrin Park (Guide), Brett Howard, Michael McClellan, Craig Trink, Justin Callaghan-Tudor, Glenn Heth,
Back (L-R) Jacey Adams, Derek Krasowski, Mr. G. Evans, Ryan Langois, Kara d'Archangelo, Dana Lea, Laura Sustrik, Mr. M Lockwood, Murray Bass



Speech Club

(L-R) Mr. G. Evans, Justin Callaghan-Tudor, Mike Williams, Glenn Heth, Dana Lea, J.D. Sheard, Melanie Hough, Ben MacPherson

l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy was the proud host of the Provincial Championships in March of 2000.



Track and Field Team

Front (Row 1)
 Mr. M. Lockwood, Nicole Morgan, Daniel Thorsen, Ian Moxley, Dustin Youb, Robert Hart
(Row 2) Brendan Brown, Ryan Bourdignon, James Haakensen
(Row 3) Jolene Hutseal
(Row 4) Johnathan Gorrie, Clayton Preston, Brendan Clauson, Michelle Fritz, Joel McKay, Tyler Kiernan
(Back) Deanna Labrecque, Joey Drinnan, Adam Pressick, Jason Maik

GROUPS AND TROUPS



Volunteer, team player, performer, traveller...at Vimy Ridge the word "student" had a host of meanings



Students Union

Front (L-R)
 Stephanie Jasinowski, Theresa Rudiak, Jason FitzGibbon, Jenelle Fisher
Middle (L-R)
 Mr. D. Anderson, J.D. Sheard, Dana Lea, Justin Callaghan-Tudor, Amanda Smith, Craig Trink, Cedar Robinson
Back (L-R) Ben MacPherson, Melanie Hough, Glenn Heth



Pipe and Drum Band

Front (L-R) Mr. M. Chute (Instructor), Ian Winchester, Gordon Bell, Cedar Robinson, James Lynass, Jenelle Fisher, Kathleen Vereecken, Mr. A. Stone
Back (L-R) Gillian Bergdahl, Mandy Wilson, Murray Bass, Ben MacPherson, Patrick Fisher, Ryan Welguz, Justin Johnston, James Haakenson, Daniel Thorsen, Scott Atkinson



Precision Drill Team

(L-R) Glenn Heth, John McCully, Scott Atkinson, Mike Williams, James Lynass, Craig Trink, Theresa Rudiak, Stephanie Jasinoski, Nicole Morgan, Annette Study, Amanda Farquharson, Amanda Gane, Jolene Hutseal, Melanie Hough, Heather Worden, Kathleen Vereecken, Eric Marietta, Suzanne Maslowski, Jason FitzGibbon, Justin Callaghan-Tudor, Chris Kiernan, Mr. G. Arndt (Instructor)



Precision Rifle Team

Front (L-R) Sharon Williams, Carly Coates
Back (L-R) Ryan Welguz, Chris Straga, Trevor Lukaniuk, Joel McKay, Kyle Pressick, Mr. Georg Arndt (Instructor)
 Missing - Greg Doucet.



Edmonton School of Ballet

The Edmonton School of Ballet Society and l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy combine forces in an educational pas de deux

The Edmonton School of Ballet was founded in 1967 by Margaret Flynn, its current Artistic Director. In 1995 it expanded to offer an Alberta Ed curriculum through Edmonton Public Schools. The school experienced its



Margaret Flynn

own first in 1999/00 when it offered the Vimy Ridge Professional Dance Program whereby dancers attend classes at Vimy Ridge Academy in the morning, and dance in the afternoon.

The dance school, which occupies Vimy's west upper wing, offers classical ballet; and national, jazz and modern dance in three main programs: Classical Ballet, Contemporary, and Teacher Training. The school is also proud to house two dance companies, the Edmonton Contemporary Dancers and Edmonton Festival Ballet, directed by Tina Covlin, and Jacques Bourguoin respectively.



Cinderalla Smiles

Kari-Lee Kroeker (above middle) and Devin McFarlane are all smiles over their field trip opportunity to meet after the show with Vimy teacher/performer, Tasha Kanaseveich, from Shumka's *Cinderalla* cast; while (Right) Vimy dancers, Jennifer Wegg (R), and Ellyse Loiselle (L), show that you can also take in great performances right here at school. Case in point - the Spring Concert.





Flying High

Lisa Bleackly performs at Remembrance Day, while (middle) dance students at school show what a girl's gotta do for a do.

Taking a Serious Step

Below, Lindsay Wolf (R) and Julia Compton (L) reflect the mood at the Remembrance Day ceremony.



Feline Fakes and Fun Faces

Hallowe'en posers (Left) include (L-R) Nicole Morgan, Ashley May, Kristen Sydora, Ashley Seward, and Ashleen MacPherson. Above, Elizabeth Wright and David Kendal in fine form.

All dressed up and rarin' to go

Special events call for very special get-ups

Frecks and Fans

Mitch Galet (Right) puts on a special face for Hallowe'en while Justin Johnston makes the only intelligent choice!

Read Me the Riot Act

(Below) Johnathan Gorrie dons riot control equipment at RCMP headquarters, and gets ready to tame his classmates!!



Hit the Slopes

Craig Trink (L) and Justin Callaghan-Tudor prove that getting up at four a.m. to ski is nooo problem. Getting up for school is another story....

Before and After

Was he having a bad face day, or did he pass out into his make-up? No, it's just Terry Lidkea, grade ten, making a face for Hallowe'en!





You Can Just Hear Them Saying:

Left

"Okay, Mr. Arndt, now where do you want us to put this thing?"

Below

"Uggh. Roast gopher without chives and Bearnaise sauce. It's just SO primitive."



Far Left

"Lemme see, if I think really fast and give what's left of this walking stick a name, they'll think I really meant to do this."

Left

"Hey guys, I can see the Nellie McClung camp from here!"

OUTDOORED-VENTURES

Learning is hot - and cold - in the great outdoors



"Hey, where'd everyone go? I'll shower. I promise!"



Hell's Angels



"A few more tunes and she'll be putty in my hands..."



"We think it's a bad case of homesickness..."



Motley Crue



Wrong mushrooms



"What did you THINK we meant by five stars?"



"Faster! The guards will be here soon!"



Barney and Friends



"I'm just dying to know what's on the other side."



"What would LIKE us to cook?"



SPRING CONCERT



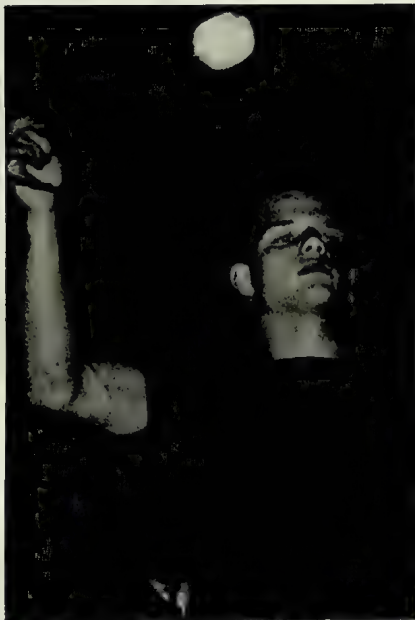
Sound the Horns!
(Above) Guest trumpeter from the Edmonton Strutters performs a solo.
(Right) In a first school concert with a public audience, Murray Bass (L) and Jenelle Fisher from Vimy Ridge's own Pipe and Drum Band.
(Below) Vimy bass drummer, grade 10 student, Deanna Fontaine.



Dance for joy - spring is here!
(Left) Senior dancers from ESB showcase some of their year's modern dance study, while grade eight student, Kathryn Smith (Above) shares an ending grin to a rollicking folk dance.



Left-RIGHT! (Left) Sharon Williams from the Vimy Ridge Precision Rifle Corp, a special team put together for this concert, shows how practice makes perfect. (Below) Special accolades from Principal Bayko for ESB dancers.



Putting on a Show! Gordon Bell, (Above left) Vimy tenor drummer, keeps the beat, and the crowd's attention with his showman drumming. (Above right) The camera catches Kristen Sydora doing the jig. Face the Music - Precision Drill's Jolene Hutseal and Melanie Hough (Upper), and ESB dancer, Beatrice Ilg. (Lower)

1st Annual Vimy Ridge TALENT SHOW!

It sounded so simple. "Hey, let's have a talent show." But little did show organizers Jacey Adams, Melanie Hough and Kara d'Archangelo know how BIG a project it really would turn out to be. However, when all was said and done, big effort transformed into big results, and the first annual Vimy Ridge Talent Show was a huge success.

It was a mixed bag of excellent performances from singing to dancing to drumming to stand-up comedy. There were even two surprise guest performances by the Vimy staff!

Show winners included Annette Study and Theresa Rudiak who Irish jigged their way into first; Shad House and Eddy Mecele who brought the house down with their comedy routine to take second; and Dana Lea whose jazz number to *Larger than Life* earned her third. Not in the running but with a performance to remember was Mr. Thibeault who did his own rendition of *I Am Canadian*.

Congrats to all, including Dwayne Lolacher, whose technical assistance was a show of talent in itself.

Shake, Rattle, and Roll

(Top) Teachers strut their stuff to *Grease* classic, *Summer Nights*, while (Middle) Josh Brown, Jeremy Boyd, Justin Johnston, and Murray Bass swing their kilts on back-up to Back Street Boys' *As Long As You Love Me*. (Bottom) Eric Marietta and Ryan Welguz perform an original drum number.



I'll Be... Singing
Ryan Chopin and Kara d'Archangelo croon an Edwin McCain tune.



You Crack Us Up
Shad House and Eddy Mecele in an original stand-up routine (Middle); show MC, Jacey Adams. (Above)



♪♪ You are the dancing queens...

(Left) It was hard to miss orange-attired, Dana Lea, whose outfit was as attention-grabbing as her performance. Below, an interesting contrast in costume and dance theme were Theresa Rudiak and Annette Study.

Performance means different things to different people.

(Top) It was judgement day for (L-R) Carlin Dennis, Ms. Heppell, and Deanna Labrecque who had the difficult task of choosing one-two-three. (Middle) Guest performers Michelle Morettin and Alana Stokes (L); and Mr. Thibeault (R); and (Below) competitor, Ryan Welguz.





Vimy Ridge students marked the end of the 1999/2000 term at a gala evening celebration at Reds in West Edmonton Mall.

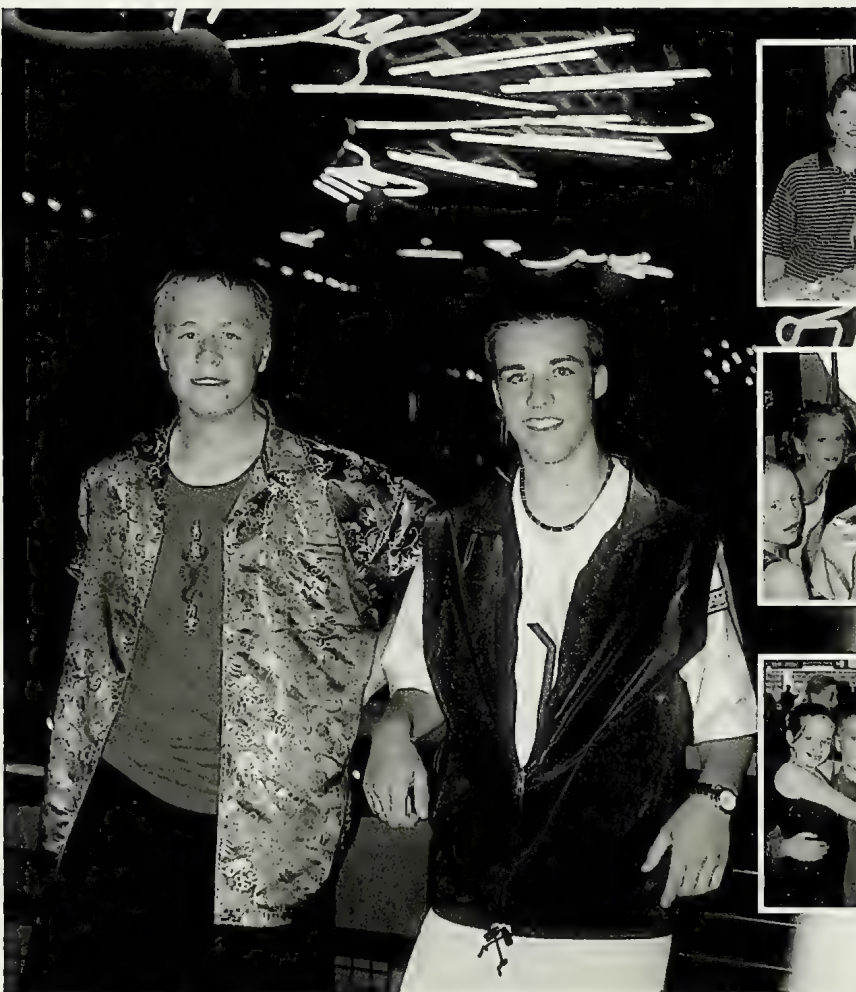
2000

FAREWELL TO THE YEAR

2000



Vimy Ridge parents and students co-ordinated the first ever Vimy Farewell. It was a truly memorable evening which included a dinner, fun activities and a dance. It was welcome to all Vimy students who wanted to say a special good-bye to the year, and in some cases, wonderful friends.



Vimy Ridge Students Union hosts activity day

Grande finale to an awesome year



What a way to end the year! The Students Union put together a final day of fun in the sun for all to enjoy. When the racing and slurping and tossing and cheering and dunking and general chasing about were over, we all went home for a lonngg rest!





Captured in The Fortress

Here we are, captured as a group, at our first stop. The Fortress of Louisbourg (a townsite and fort) is a living museum, that took us back in time to the early 1700's.



Mastadon Bones at Rest

Mr. Lockwood takes a well-earned rest at one of the information stations at Mastadon Ridge Historic Site on the way to Sydney.



A Trip to Nova Scotia Summer 2000

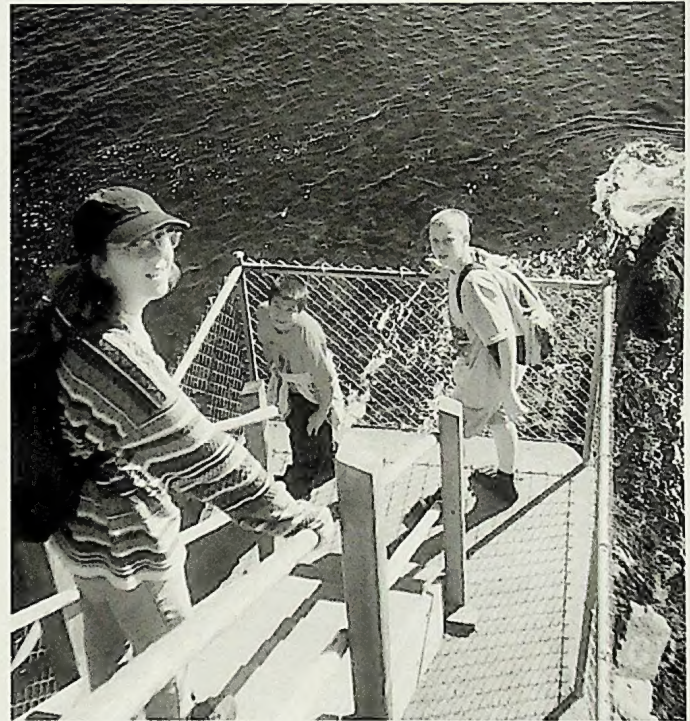
It was a summer of firsts for a group of very adventurous Vimy Ridge students, parents and teacher supervisors, Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Evans. A trip to Nova Scotia in July of 2000 offered sights and experiences many had never had before, and never will forget. We crawled out of bed bright and early on June 30 to arrive extra early for our flight - which was cancelled! After a mere thirteen hours of waiting, we were on our way...

We landed in Halifax and promptly boarded

a bus for Sydney where we spent Canada Day touring and celebrating. Next day we toured Louisbourg, followed by a day of rafting at the Bay of Fundy.

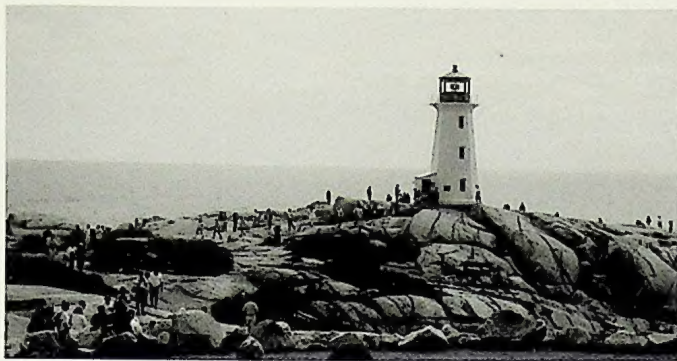
Our trip was truly action-packed, from whale watching, buggy riding, and gold panning to experiencing history, dining on amazing sea food, and watching a military tattoo.

In addition to the many touring firsts, it was a time for us to make friendships which will last as long as the memories.



Oven's Natural Park Hike

Water, water, everywhere...what a change from home! (Middle) Brett, Paul and Dan get a closer view of the pounding surf on our nature walk through the park. (Right) Justin, Derek, & Dana perch on a cannon at the Halifax Citadel.



Priceless, Pretty Peggy

(Left) A visit to NS just wouldn't be complete without a stop at Peggy's Cove. Below, James and Dan go at a game of chess at our motel at Mountain Gap Resort.



Dockside Delight

Mr. Evans and Kara (below) turn blind eyes to the gloomy weather and indulge in ice cream cones on route to whale watching. The whales were busy that day - but we did see some harbor seals.



Big, Bad Dan

Here's what happens when you misbehave on a field trip - No! Dan demonstrates old style punishment at Louisbourg, while Jacey, Murray, Kara, & Justin (middle) go down with the ship at the Fisheries Museum in Lunenburg.

Ready for Rafting

Jacey and Justin are pumped and ready for our tidal bore rafting adventure on the Bay of Fundy. It was a blast - especially getting soaked - and turning orange.

Shall We Dance?

Yes, of course! We were most welcome to join the cast at the Fortress as they grooved to the music of VERY old time tunes.

Photos: Mr. Lockwood & crew; Kara d'Archangelo
Layout & Text: Ms. Megley & Kara d'Archangelo

Vimy Ridge - A Nation's Coming of Age

Easter Monday, April 9, 1917. Year three of the Great War. In the cold dawn 40,000 Canadian soldiers are waiting, waiting in the cold rain and snow, for Canada's most epic battle in history.

Vimy Ridge. Near the city of Arras, France, its occupation determined domination of the entire region. For nearly three years it had been held by the Germans, during which time over 260,000 troops from both sides had been killed or wounded trying to take or hold it.

1917 had been the worst winter on record in European history, and conditions in the trenches were abominable: indescribable filth, mud so deep men drowned in it; rats, lice, hunger: the mental horrors of war.

But the Canadians, more than the British and French, were used to the harsh weather and extreme working conditions. They were men who had grown up on farms or near the edge of rugged forests. They were the men, who, compared to other nations in the Great War, had joined up in record numbers. And by Easter Monday, 1917, they were also the best-prepared troops in the world.

Under Canadian Commander Arthur Currie they had planned every aspect of the battle. They had dug tunnels, and intricately mapped out the area so that German guns could be taken out first. They had been taught to walk the "Vimy Glide," a Canadian tactics innovation, under a creeping artillery barrage. From Raymond Brutinel of Edmonton they had learned an innovative method of machine gun fire, "indirect fire," a tactic which proved so successful it was used in all successive battles. For the previous seven days, Canadian pilots, including Billy Bishop had pounded German positions to keep supplies and weapons from reaching the front.

But perhaps the most ingenious innovation arose out of Currie's approach to the average soldier. Whereas French and British commands had been loathe to share battle strategy with their troops, Currie shared every detail of the plan with every soldier, giving each a true understanding of the mission. Not one man betrayed any information to the enemy.

The planning and strategies, jeered at first by the British, won the day. Canadian soldiers reached the top of Vimy Ridge in one day. Only the Pimple, a stubborn knoll at one end of the ridge held, but within a few days, the whole of the ridge was in Canadian hands! Canadian troops had done in days what all of Europe had not been able to do for years.

After Vimy, the tide turned against the Germans. They continued to fall back, and in November of 1918, an armistice was signed, signaling an end to the war.

But the tide also turned for Canada. Whereas once we were a colony, an appendage of Great Britain, we now took our own place at the world table. At the Peace Talks in 1919, we sat as a full participant in deciding the fate of Europe. Canada was established as a world symbol of valor, honor, and integrity.

In 1922 France ceded 250 acres to Canadian perpetuity as a memorial park, where today stands the Vimy Ridge Memorial. It stands as a shrine to those who fell doing the "impossible," giving their lives so that we might live a way of life that rings with freedom and justice. *

The qualities of discipline, leadership, physical fitness, and high performance displayed by those Canadians are those that we strive to develop at l'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy.

